

### New Library Name But Same Mission: GCC First Niagara Library & Learning Commons

Over the summer, on June 10, 2014, officials from First Niagara Bank and Gateway Community College celebrated the naming of the College's First Niagara Library and Learning Commons with a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception. The new Library was made possible in part through a charitable grant from First Niagara Foundation, the philanthropic arm of First Niagara Bank, N.A. The grand opening took place in the light of Gateway's stunning expanse of windows in the two-story space that combines traditional library and learning commons functions with classrooms, computer areas, and study spaces. "The First Niagara Library and Learning Commons serves as the heart of all learning," said GCC President Dorsey Kendrick. "We are so grateful for David Ring and his team and their generous support for our students and our mission. It is this kind of leadership that assures that our students will have every opportunity and chance at success."

"First Niagara is a proud supporter of Gateway Community College and of our role in helping to bring this beautiful campus to downtown New Haven," said First Niagara Region President David Ring. "The library and learning commons – with its iconic curved wall of glass — is the epicenter of this magnificent state-of-the-art campus and we are honored to have it bear First Niagara's name."

"The Gateway Community College Foundation is so grateful and proud to be partnered with First Niagara Bank," said Tom Griggs Jr., chairman of the GCC Foundation Board. "The Library and Learning Commons is as functional as it is beautiful. The impact of the aesthetics and utility says to students that they matter. They are important and deserve the very best. Without generous investors like First Niagara, this would not be possible."

According to Dr. Clara Ogbaa, Director of the Library and Learning Commons, over the course of the year an average of 6,000 students use the Library and Learning Commons weekly. This adds up to more than 316,000 visits per year. The Library occupies a large area of the first and second floors in the South Building of the GCC Downtown New Haven Campus. More than 400 students can be accommodated in this beautiful space. The first floor is a quiet study area which houses magazines, journals and newspapers as well as group study rooms. There is also a special Kids' Cove for the Library's collection of children's books, which is frequently used by the College's Early Learning Center. The second floor features the Learning Commons, where visitors can access print and electronic books, obtain journal, magazine, newspaper and reference articles from the online academic databases, utilize the C-Pods, and engage in individual or group study. At the Service Desk, students may consult a reference librarian, obtain computer help, and check out books, reserve materials, laptops and calculators. The Library also includes a multi-purpose room for meetings, guest speakers, and book clubs. Collaboration pods (C-Pods) with computer stations and large-screen monitors, allow students to work together on group projects. The Assistive Technology Room provides services for students with special needs. In addition, with the new Information Literacy Instruction Room, equipped with 32 student computers, librarians are able to present classes ranging from the introductory to the assignment-specific, using the latest technology. We welcome and invite our students, faculty and staff to take advantage of our exciting new space, technology and research resources in order to identify, access, and integrate information in learning and knowledge. The First Niagara Library and Learning Commons of Gateway Community College is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information about the First Niagara Library and Learning Commons visit <http://www.gatewayct.edu/Library>.



*(Pictured from Left to Right: Library Director, Dr. Clara Ogbaa, GCC President, Dr. Dorsey Kendrick, David R Managing Director, Enterprise Banking at First Niagara Bank and First Niagara Bank, First Niagara Vice President of Corporate Communications Karen Crane, James Bzdyra, Senior Vice-President, Market Executive for Commercial Banking at First Niagara and Thomas Griggs Jr., Chair of the Gateway Community College Foundation Board)*

# New this Semester!

## Center for Teaching *LibGuide*

*“The Center for Teaching was established in 1987 as a vehicle to promote teaching excellence through the sharing of ideas, the interaction of faculty members on each campus, and the creation of coordinated professional development opportunities for the Connecticut College system.” (CFT Mission statement)*

Faculty and staff can now access a variety of teaching resources within the new Center for Teaching *libguide*, a collaboration of CFT consultant Teresa Russo DeMars and librarian Martha Lipowski. This online guide contains links to handouts, online teaching journals, websites and other valuable resources relating to pedagogy.

A link to the newly established CFT book collection is also contained within the guide and can be viewed by clicking on the *Books* tab and then the link provided. The collection is housed in the library’s Special Collections area on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and items may be borrowed for three weeks at a time. You can also keep abreast of upcoming CFT events and workshops by clicking on the *Professional Development* tab where you have the option of registering in advance. Or you may want to read the timely handout “Start the Semester Right,” located under the *Teaching Tips* tab.

To access the CFT *libguide* go to <http://gwcc.libguides.com/c.php?g=57736> or click on the “For Faculty” link on the college or library homepage. Be sure to check back regularly for newly added content. For additional information on the Center for Teaching, please contact Teresa Russo Demars at [tdemars@gatewayct.edu](mailto:tdemars@gatewayct.edu).

## Check Your Gateway Email

GCC Library is now sending courtesy and overdue notices by email. You will receive a reminder notice three days before your books or videos are due, to let you know that it is time to return or renew them. A second email notice will be sent for items that are not returned after their due date. All notices will be sent to your Gateway email account automatically. Items can be returned at the library service desk or at the book drop after hours, and can be renewed one time in person, by phone, or online by going to [www.gatewayct.edu/library](http://www.gatewayct.edu/library) and clicking on “My Library Account” to log in with your NetID.



## Updated Library Instruction Form

We have updated our Library instruction form allowing instructors more options when scheduling their classes. New options include adding instructional sessions, access to our library information literacy tutorial *ResearchReady*, and creating collaborative assignments with a librarian. The new form is available on our homepage, under Services in the link [For Faculty](#).

## Research Project Calculator

The Research Project Calculator is a template that allows students to create and schedule their upcoming assignments. The calculator tracks student progress and can help them stay on schedule. It is located on our homepage under Find; click the [Research Guide](#) link, or it can be accessed at <https://rpc.elm4you.org/>

## New Books & DVDs *LibGuide*

Check out the Library's New Books and DVDs LibGuide which has been updated to include new Summer titles Librarians selected which cover a wide variety of subjects and disciplines. In addition to books the Library has also added over 200 new DVDs featuring various genres. The Library allows users to check out up to four DVDS at a time for one week, with possible renewal. To see what new titles have been added please visit:  
<http://gwcc.libguides.com/newtitles>.

## Story Time with ELC Students!

Librarians Martha Lipowski, Shauna DeStefano and Todd Hampton met with children from the Early Learning Center over the summer to read stories and play in the Kids Cove!



## Week One at GCC Library: By the Numbers

In the first week of classes this Fall at the Gateway Library and Learning Commons:

**8,956 patrons entered the library, an average of 142 per hour or one every 25 seconds.**

**Librarians answered 130 reference questions.**

**Librarians and student workers conducted 772 circulation transactions.**

**Library staff provided computing help to 130 students.**

**A total of 1323 questions of all types were answered, an average of one question every three minutes the library is open, or one question for every six students who enter the library.**

**929 items were checked out by library staff, including 642 reserve book loans and 112 laptop loans.**

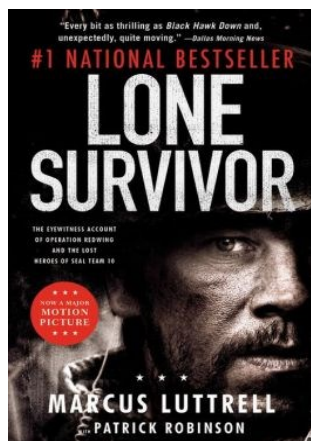
**Students borrowed 110 3-week loan graphing calculators, and used the library's 21 3-hour loan calculators 32 times.**

**Students used the library's self-check stations to borrow 119 books and 67 DVDs from the new film collection.**

So if you've visited the library during the first week and thought it seemed busy, you were right! Library staff look forward to seeing and assisting you during the Fall semester.

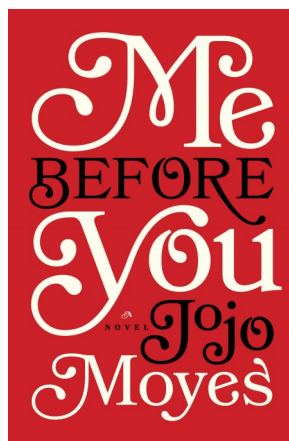
## GCC Book Club

The Library will be hosting two Fall Book Club Meetings! The Book Club is free and open to all library users. Interested readers who would like to join can contact Shauna DeStefano at [sdestefano@gwcc.commnet.edu](mailto:sdestefano@gwcc.commnet.edu). Copies of books are available in the Library. All meetings will take place in the Library Multipurpose Rm, S217.



**Book:** *Lone Survivor*  
**Author:** Marcus Luttrell  
 with Patrick Robinson

**Date:** Wed., Oct. 1  
**Time:** 2-3PM



**Book Title:** *Me Before You*  
**Author:** Jojo Moyes

**Date:** Thurs., Nov. 20  
**Time:** 2-3PM

### Individual Research Appointments

Having trouble starting your research? Struggling to find reputable resources? Librarians are here to help! Schedule an Individual Research Appointment with a Librarian to discuss your research strategy as well as how to utilize the Library Catalog and Databases to locate scholarly books and journal articles. To schedule an appointment please fill out a form at the Library Service Desk. What are you waiting for? Librarians are ready and waiting to assist you!

### NEW Fall Semester Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8AM-8PM  
 Friday: 8AM-6PM  
 Saturday: 9AM-2PM



Library staff  
members

welcome our  
New & Returning  
Students,  
Faculty & Staff.

*Your Library just got  
better!  
Stop by for all your  
information &*

The library newsletter  
is now  
available online.  
Go to  
the library's homepage  
and click on the  
"Library News" link to  
view all previous  
editions.

First Niagara Library & Learning Commons

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Chat with Librarians

